



John E. Ekdahl

A Message from Mayor Ekdahl

I am pleased to announce that on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 the Borough of Rumson announced a partnership with Monmouth University to build a Marine Field Station on the Navesink River adjacent to the Borough boat launch. The University has been using the Rumson boat ramp for the past decade for the Marine Biology program. While the new field station will provide opportunities for the Monmouth students, it will provide our Rumson students the ability to engage in educational hands-on opportunities under the direction of Monmouth University professionals in the areas of environmental sciences, ecology and marine biology. The Borough Council and I look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship under this new partnership.

Rumson and Monmouth University Announce Partnership to Build Marine Field Station on the Navesink River

Over a year ago, the Borough of Rumson and the Borough Council began discussions with Monmouth University to establish a Marine and Environmental Science Field Station. The Field Station would function as an outdoor classroom and ultimately a facility with classrooms and laboratories for students and researchers. A main component of the partnership will provide education and outreach service to the local community, schools and the public.

Both Monmouth University and the Borough of Rumson were excited about the advantages to a partnership of this nature and wholeheartedly embraced the concept. On Tuesday, September 26th, the two parties, unveiled plants to mutually develop a new Monmouth Marine and Environmental Field Station on Rumson municipal property located on the banks of the Navesink River. The facility will provide unique opportunities for both the professional and students of Monmouth, and our students at the local schools.



Steven Bachrach, Mayor Ekdahl, Grey Dimenna, Councilman Hemphill



“This partnership is a win-win for Monmouth University and for our residents, especially the students from our local schools, who have an interest and a thirst for science” said Mayor Ekdahl. “Our students will be able to take part and assist with hands-on research and class activities related to the waterways surrounding the Borough, which will be led by some of the most respected experts in their field.”

“As the region’s leading private coastal university with our main campus just a mile from the ocean, Monmouth University has an important role to play in exploring the Jersey Shore’s marine environments and sharing that knowledge with our neighboring communities,” Monmouth University President Grey Dimenna said. “We are excited about the distinctive research opportunities at the field station for our students and faculty and thank our partners in Rumson for making this possible.”

Faculty from the University’s School of Science and Urban Coast Institute (UCI) have long used the boat ramp as a launch point for research in area water bodies such as the Navesink and Shrewsbury rivers, the Sandy Hook and Raritan bays, New

York Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean. The University has already been granted access to the property to store vessels and other scientific equipment.

“This facility will help us build a better understanding of the scientific challenges facing the Navesink and Shrewsbury watersheds, from water quality issues to the rise of invasive species,” School of Science Dean Dr. Steven Bachrach said. “It will also be a great asset for the School of Science’s continued growth as one of the East Coast’s premiere marine and environmental biology programs.”

*“This partnership is a win-win for Monmouth University and for our residents.” - Mayor Ekdahl*

“The field station will allow our students to conduct hands-on, cutting-edge research projects that make a difference in the Two River communities,” UCI Director Tony MacDonald said. “These activities will prepare our students for their careers and perhaps attract a new generation of scientists.”

Sewer Line Replacement Update

Over the summer months, several leaks occurred on the Club Way Force Main sewer pipe. Initially, the Borough repaired the leaks, however, it became apparent that the entire pipe would need to be replaced. In nine days under the supervision of Borough Engineer, David Marks and Borough Administrator, Tom Rogers, the entire 2,200 foot Club Way Force Main was replaced. The Borough would like to thank residents for their patience while this work was underway.

Paving Announcements

Monmouth County will be paving the following streets during the upcoming months:

- Bingham Avenue (Rumson Rd to Ridge Rd)
- Rumson Road (Bingham Ave to Ward Ave)
- Avenue of Two Rivers (Ridge Rd to Rumson Rd)
- Ridge Rd (Bingham Ave to Avenue of Two Rivers)
- East River Road (Ridge Rd to Black Point Rd)

**Note:** Ridge Rd and East River Rd will be paved after the Borough curb and sidewalk construction is complete, weather permitting.

Due to large rehabilitation utility upgrades by New Jersey Natural Gas and New Jersey American Water Company, a number of


Borough streets require paving. While some streets have already been repaved either in part or in full, there are additional Borough streets that will require paving. Whenever possible, the Borough has been working closely with the utility company’s paving contractor to ensure all paving upgrades meet Borough standards.

Receiving a grant from the State, allowed the Borough to embark on the curb and sidewalk project that is currently underway between the Oceanic Library and Bingham Avenue. This project will also include curbs and sidewalks along East River Road between Ridge Road and Black Point Road. Road paving along the curbing and sidewalk project is included in the Monmouth County paving plan for Rumson. In addition, the Borough is pursuing additional State grants for future phases of curbing and sidewalk upgrades.



On September 12, Boy Scout Troop 201 of Rumson visited to observe a Council meeting. Tom Rogers made copies of the agenda for them, and explained the roles of the council members and Borough Administrator. Afterward, the Council members answered questions asked by the Scouts.

DID YOU KNOW: OCEANIC FREE LIBRARY COMMEMORATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY WITH BOOK RE-PUBLISHING



### Oceanic Free Library

We are celebrating the life of William Henry Meeker by offering a limited reprint of this special book.

The Oceanic Free Library is a memorial to William Henry Meeker, who died on September 11, 1917 in the service of his country. It was given to the people of the borough in 1920 by William Meeker’s parents.

THE BOOK IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE LIBRARY.

IT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE ON NOVEMBER 16TH AT BINGHAM HALL.

All proceeds from the sale will go to the library. More information on the library can be found at: [www.oceaniclib.org](http://www.oceaniclib.org)

Residents who are interested in receiving the electronic library newsletter should visit [www.oceaniclib.org](http://www.oceaniclib.org), click on the “contact” tab and request the newsletter.

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